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ABSTRACT

Not all children can or should be straight-A students, as everyone differs in their abilities and interests, but all children have the potential to learn and to personally succeed in school. This guide describes a step-by-step program for intervening with students who are underachievers and for promoting student success. The guide provides teachers and parents with specific ways to support achievement and provide a positive learning environment, while providing students with specific ways to set goals, manage their work, develop good study habits, and boost their own self-esteem. Following an introduction to the characteristics of underachievement and information on using the guide for both underachievers and those achieving to their potential, the guide approaches its subject from a sports perspective with the following sections: (1) "The Players" (types of underachievers); (2) "The Coaches" (teachers and parents); (3) "The Strategy Sessions" (divided into a student self-assessment, student and parent interviews, teacher conference, and an action plan); (4) "Success Boosters" (learning, developing study habits, managing school work, setting goals, and dealing with personal issues); (5) "The Contract" (between student, teachers, and parents, and including the handling of reluctant players); and (6) "Resources" (forms and student work plans). The text is divided according to the target audience (parents, teachers, or students). (EAJ)

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